committed to resolve various issues relating to exports through better inter Ministerial coordination. In this regard, the Government has agreed to set up an Inter Ministerial Group, comprising of the Finance Minister and the Commerce & Industry Minister, which will meet at periodic intervals, to look into the grievances of the exporters.

GoMs on FDI

879. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL:
SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted a high power group of Ministers (GoMs) on Foreign Direct Investment;

(b) if so, the details of composition of the GoMs;

(c) whether GoMs is meeting at long intervals and several cases of FDIs in various sectors remained undecided; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken to complete the task of GoMs in a time bound programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (d) A Group of Minister (GoMs) was constituted to consider specific proposals related to review of the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy. Based on the recommendations of GoM, decisions have since been taken by the Government which have been notified on 10.2.2006.

Sino-India trade

880. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Sino-India trade in 2004 was $13.6 billion;

(b) whether it is also a fact that road connectivity with Myanmar will boost economic cooperation with China and other fast growing South-East Asian countries; and

(c) if so, whether Government have any proposal to link North-East States with Myanmar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) During the year 2004-05, Sino-India trade volume was US$11.33 billion.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A number of projects aimed at improving connectivity between India and Myanmar are under consideration. These include roads & highways, shipping links and rail links.

Bridging economic relations between ASEAN and SAARC

881. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the observation made by the former Philippines President at the Seminar held on "Vision of an Integrated Asia in the 21st Century" organized recently by the FICCI at New Delhi to the effect that ASEAN and SAARC countries were the key building blocks for the integration of the entire ASEAN-Pacific Region;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to moot any proposal to bridge the economic relations between ASEAN and SAARC countries;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if answered to part (b) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The observation made by the former President of Philippines at the Seminar held on "Vision of an Integrated Asia in the 21st Century" organized recently by the FICCI at New Delhi is in the knowledge of the Government.

(b) to (c) There is no such proposal under consideration of the government presently.

(d) India is currently engaged with ASEAN in negotiating a Comprehensvie Economic Agreement.